

Appln. No. 09/521,367
Petition dated December 12, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 13, 2003

Attorney Docket No. 00146/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Hitoshi KARASAWA

Serial No. : 09/521,367

Filed : March 8, 2000

For : TROCAR SHEATH TUBE

Art Unit : 3731

Examiner : Paul A. Roberts

Confirm. No.: 9961

Customer No.: 01933

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Appeals from the final decision of the Primary Examiner finally rejecting claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-18, 24 and 25.

A Petition for an extension of time for three month(s) to respond to the final rejection along with a response to the final rejection were filed on December 11, 2003 via the Express Mail filing procedure. Therefore, a timely response to the final rejection has been filed, as provided in 841 O.G. 1411.

12/16/2003 SDENB0B1 00000029 09521367

J1 F0:1401

330.00 OP

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date noted below.

Marilyn Stults appd
Marilyn Stults

Dated: December 12, 2003

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

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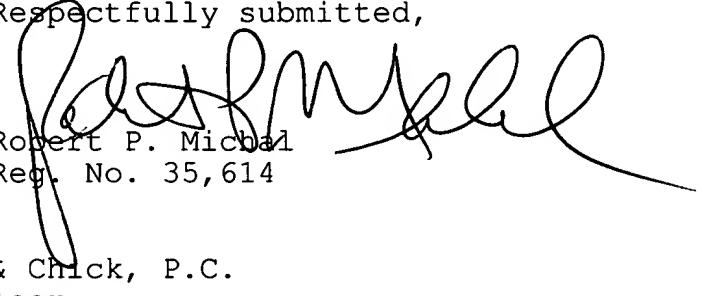
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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A check for \$330.00 is enclosed to cover the Patent Office appeal fee. If any further fees are required, authorization is given to charge the same against Account No. 06-1378.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert P. Michal
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